

Note: Same letter also to: The Very Rev. John F. Hoover
The Very Rev. Robert D. Keel
The Rev. John A. Schultz
The Very Rev. William L. Smith
The Very Rev. Robert J. McCloskey, Sr.

March 28, 1974

The Rev. George W. Rutler, President
Catholic Clerical Union, Philadelphia Branch
c/o The Church of the Good Shepherd
Lancaster and Montrose Avenues
Rosemont, Pennsylvania 19010

Dear Father Rutler:

On behalf of Diocesan Council, I wish to thank you for your communication of March 4, 1974 concerning action of the Council on the formation of a committee of the Diocese to plan for the ordination of women to the priesthood.

As you have probably heard by now, Diocesan Council spent considerable time dealing with your letters--all of which were communicated to the Council, either in writing or by being read aloud.

Several resolutions were proposed and the final one, which dealt with the formation of another committee to consider all aspects of the matter, was defeated by a vote of 19-7.

The communications were referred by a previous action of the Council to the Strategy Committee, and they will be considered by that Committee; and any further recommendations to Council concerning this matter will be made by them.

However, it would seem that Council has carefully considered its action, twice now, and has determined that it feels the course of action it originally took is the one it wished to continue to take.

Thank you, again, for your concern in this matter.

Sincerely,

John Butterworth, Esq.
Secretary, Diocesan Council

JB:ggh